

SNAPSHOTS MADE BY TRIBUNE PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CHILDREN ANTICIPATING THE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS



SCHOOL XMAS FOR 5,000

Children's Aid Society a Santa to Boys and Girls.

SONGS ON SAN JUAN HILL

Ritz-Carlton Manager Gives 125 Dinners to Big Families on West Side.

There are twenty-four branches of the Children's Aid Society Industrial Schools dotting Manhattan Island and into every one of them went Santa Claus yesterday afternoon. Probably 5,000 lower grade tots had their Christmas dreams come true just because the kind old man didn't overlook them in the midst of all his engagements in more favored parts of the big city.

The young folk had lots of fun unwrapping bundles and packages after they had recited poems, sung songs and danced the merry folk dances. The kindergartners were especially favored in having as guests at the exercises their mamma, who went over to see the tops in snow drifts just to look in on the good times.

The same favors were shown beyond Tompkins Square, where Sadie Minnowitch and Meyer Schlesinger, of Avenue A, sang about the New Born King to the pale tubercular pupils who recite on the open air roof garden of the school at 251 street and Eleventh Avenue, and in addition 125 free dinners were distributed among hollow-eyed mothers of big West side Irish families.

The dinners were the gift of Manager Keller, of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, to the Children's Aid Society. Miss Kate Crommelin and her ten assistants have made 1,300 visits in the homes of these needy West Siders during the last year, and they know something about deserving mothers. They took back the tickets they had distributed in the district yesterday and in exchange gave each a faced, shawl clad woman three pounds of beef, one-half pound of tea, coffee and cocoa and three pounds of sugar.

After each boy and girl had eaten a hot dinner the youngsters filed into the assembly room, where a real Santa Claus handed out delightful things from two mammoth trees. The pupils of the grades up to 4-A were properly entertained by a magician, whose marvellous feats brought pink to pale cheeks. After it was all over they went downstairs and drank hot chocolate with their bread and butter. This morning they will breakfast on hot cereal, milk and eggs.

Five hundred dusky boys and girls of the San Juan Hill section had a melodious festival in the spacious hall of Henrietta School, No. 24 West 63d street. They sang "Swanee River," "In the Evening by the Moonlight," and many appropriate Christmas carols for F. Delano Weekes and C. Loring Grace, trustees.

Miss M. L. Stewart, principal, introduced Dr. Charles H. Roberts, a negro, who is head of the dental clinic of the school, who urged his hearers to strive to excel in all things, even if the task were a humble one like blacking boots. After that the Rev. Victor Fiumi, of the Moravian Church, made a speech and Miss Klink, the superintendent of the kindergarten department, supervised the distribution of the good things on the Christmas tree.

TRINITY CHILDREN'S XMAS

Impressive Parish Ceremony in Busy Broadway.

Each year while eager throngs hasten hither and thither along Broadway and Wall street in the vicinity of old Trinity hundreds of children in the lower end of the parish, and belonging for the most part to the poorer families, gather in the old church to take part in a ceremony called the "visit to the manger."

Yesterday's service began at 5 o'clock, when the chimes played for five hundred children. The service is one of the big festivals of the church, a full vesting of all of the clergy taking part. The main vestibule of the church, occupying the large space at the end of the main aisle, opposite the chancel, was cleared and chosen as the place for the manger.

The visit began after a short address to the children by the rector, Dr. Manning. There was a fanfare of trumpets and the choir, preceded by six acolytes in red, followed by the ministers, led the children in procession, each child passing in singly before the manger.

CHRISTMAS.

A Merry Christmas
To all mankind!
'Tis Christmas morn;
The Prince of Peace is born.
Let babes leap for joy,
Let sorrow's sighs be lost in mirth,
Let only laughter give humanity's
tears birth.
Sheath the sword of strife!
End all war the rule of brutal
might!
Let love and justice rule by right.
Let songs of love and brotherhood
Go round and round the world;
Let strain urge strain on the air;
Let the plea of gentle Jesus be heard
everywhere;
Let it break in benediction clear,
Let world-wide peace in brother-
hood be
The crowning climax of the year.
FRED'K TOWNSEND MARTIN.
New York, 1912.

GOVERNOR-ELECT'S XMAS JUST LIKE "BILL'S" WAS

Wife and Mother to Help Sulzer on Turkey Friend Sent.

Governor-elect Sulzer said yesterday that his Christmas to-day would be spent in the same simple fashion that he had spent the day last year and all other years when he was plain "Bill" Sulzer. With Mrs. Sulzer and his mother, he will discuss a turkey of ample proportions, which was sent by one of his many friends. He hopes that he will be able to spend the remainder of the day in visiting with his wife and mother, as after January 1 he expects to be working under high pressure all the time.

The Governor-elect remained in seclusion all day yesterday. He spent every minute upon his inaugural speech and first message to the Legislature. For the first time in many years the opening of the Legislature has come upon the same day as the inauguration of a new Governor. The inauguration comes at noon and the opening of the Legislature in the evening.

Mr. Sulzer said he was declining about fifty invitations a day to speak at dinners and other public and semi-public affairs. He says he will attend strictly to his job as Governor and speak on few public occasions outside of his regular work.

XMAS FOR LEDERLE WARDS

Lad in Hospital Asks Santa to Make 'His Lungs Well.'

More than 1,000 in cash and many thousands of toys were contributed for the children in the hospitals of the Department of Health, in answer to an appeal by Health Commissioner Lederle, Mayor Gaynor and Miss Helen Gould were among the contributors. Many of the gifts were checks for \$50 and \$25. One man contributed 500 toys yesterday. Two planes were also given.

"I have been most gratified," said the Commissioner yesterday. "The hospital children are assured of everything they have asked for. Many of the children wrote pathetic letters to me to be forwarded to Santa Claus. One boy, in making known his modest request, asked if something could be done to 'make his lungs well,' for he could not see why he should have tuberculosis when other boys did not have it."

To make sure of a real Christmas every year for the department's wards the Commissioner is forming a permanent organization to take care of the future Christmas festivities.

At 8 o'clock this morning the health official will visit Willard Parker, Kingston Avenue and other department hospitals to look after the distribution of the presents. One of the planes will go to Otisville Sanatorium and the other to Kingston Avenue Hospital.

KRIS VISITS BROOKLYN

Delegates, Elks and Others to Help Dispense Xmas Cheer.

The Brooklyn Lodge of Elks kept its members busy yesterday afternoon distributing 2,000 baskets of Christmas cheer to poor families. For a month the members have been distributing tickets to needy families, which entitled them to baskets of food. Not all the families were able to send after the baskets, and so members of the lodge with automobiles were pressed into service yesterday afternoon to make deliveries. Each basket contained six or seven pounds of food and fruits, nuts and vegetables, as well as candy. The amount was considered sufficient for the six persons.

In the evening the Miranda Democratic Club delivered a thousand baskets of food to poor families, using a couple of big motor trucks for the purpose. To-day the Salvation Army will distribute 5,000 baskets of food from its Industrial Home, No. 23 Raymond street, and several thousand more from Army Hall, No. 149 Mercer street. The Santa Claus parade of children Friday morning at the Grand Opera House. This will be the first of the twenty-third year.

OLD-FASHIONED GALA AROUND CITY'S TREE

Continued from first page.

Band burst forth into a fanfare from "Parsifal." As they sounded their first note the big star at the apex of the Christmas tree began to glow; it brightened gradually as they continued, and when it had reached its most brilliant point the colored lights on the branches below winked here and there into being, one cluster after another, until the whole fairy tree stood revealed.

The choir and chorus, which had assembled at 4:30 o'clock in Dr. Parkhurst's Church, across Madison Avenue, and had marched to the bandstand led by Charles L. Safford, their marshal, now began singing "The First Noel." Every one in the thousands, penned in the pathways by a special detachment of police, clapped, but the volume of applause sounded faint across the snowy waste dividing them from the bandstand—sounded a bit like the rustling of a forest under the winter wind. Fortunately, no wind disturbed the singers or the tree, and the multitude, warmed here and there by coke burners such as workmen used to heat their tools in winter, considered themselves comfortable enough to remain indefinitely.

Another feature adding to the modern convenience of the celebration was the presence of two hundred Boy Scouts of America to act as public messengers. Alongside the bandstand the singers have a portable blower, also heated with electricity. These singers number one hundred, all of them voluntary workers like their little brethren, the Boy Scouts.

Evening Filled with Music.

Last night the MacDowell School Cantor and the Welsh Singers' Gwent Choir bore the larger part of the burden. They sang under the leadership of Kurt Schindler, with brief intermissions, steadily until 9:30 o'clock. At this point there intervened a half hour of silence. At 9 o'clock the Van Haar Band, of forty pieces, took up the task of entertaining the Christmas-hungry for an hour. There followed an intermission of one hour, and then the singers sang the songs of all nations until midnight.

At midnight the band crashed out the strains of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," and the crowd blackening the snow round about sang an accompaniment.

Other societies it is hoped will follow the example set for them by the MacDowell and Welsh singers and come forward to supply the entertainment for other nights, since the tree is to be kept illuminated from night and every night until the dawn of January 1, 1913. Jacob A. Riis and his friends will conduct the celebration about the tree on New Year's Eve.

In succinct form the organizers of the municipal Christmas celebration made the following formal explanation of just how the tree came into being:

The idea—Mrs. J. B. Herreshoff.
The tree—The Adirondack Club.
The transportation—A railroad manager, who asked to have his name not given.
The engineer who superintended the tree—Colonel William Washington.
The lighting of the tree—The Edison Company, under the direction of Mr. Norman.
Those who have arranged the details of the programme and supplied the funds prefer to remain nameless.

It may interest the public to know that the entire programme has been arranged in one week and that all have been volunteered and given, the one expense being the erection of the great tree.

Heinrich Meyne sang a baritone solo, "The Manger Cradle," by Neidlinger. After the first carol, Miss Eva Emmet Wycoff interpolated a soprano solo, "O, Holy Night," by Adam, between the third and fourth carols. No. 8 on the programme was a tenor solo, "O, Little Town of Bethlehem," by Spross, sung by Ludwig Hess, Miss Elizabeth Sherman Clark, a contralto, contributed No. 11, a solo, "Night of Nights," by Van de Water.

The entire programme was as follows:

Carol, "The First Noel."
(Traditional melody.)
Baritone solo, "The Manger Cradle," Neidlinger.
Carol, "Shepherds, Leave Your Flocks Behind."
(Old French.)
Carol, "From Highest Heaven to Earth We Come."
(Old German.)
Soprano solo, "O, Holy Night," Adam.
Carol, "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night."
(Old English.)
Carol, "Good King Wenceslas."
(Traditional melody.)
Tenor solo, "O, Little Town of Bethlehem," Spross.
Carol, "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen."
(Traditional melody.)
Carol, "As with Gladness Men of Old."
(Traditional melody.)
Contralto solo, "Night of Nights," Van de Water.
Anthem, "Holy Night, Peaceful Night," Hawley.

Many young women prominent in society helped out the musical programme by singing in the Seola Cantorum—Miss Mary P. Field, Miss Belle Guerne, Miss Dorothea Draper, Miss Marion Norris, Miss Natalie Curless, Miss Marion Gregory and Miss Gertrude Parsons among them.

The management of the celebration is indebted to Marc Lagen, manager of Miss Wycoff and of Miss Clark, for the services of these two singers. Director Martin of the Chorus of Colored Music Settlement Voices generously arranged for the presence of his chorus, as did Eugene Jackson, leader of St. Mark's choir.

CHRISTMAS TRADITION IN WARFARE SHATTERED

Records Reveal Remarkable Sea Fight Between U. S. Privateer and British Warship 100 Years Ago To-Day.

By Edgar S. Maclay.

For nearly a century it has been generally supposed that so far as the regular land and sea forces of the United States were concerned no battle was fought on a Christmas Day. It is true that Washington began his movement against the Hessians at Trenton on December 25, 1776, but it was not until the following morning that fighting actually began. Then again, it was on December 25, 1862, that Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter continued his bombardment of Fort Fisher, but although a force of several thousand men was landed, the contemplated assault on the Confederate works was abandoned.

With these two exceptions (if exceptions they are), it has been generally conceded that in the 136 years of the United States' career as a nation this day of "peace on earth, good will toward men" has been distinguished by the absence of actual fighting so far as American land and sea forces were concerned.

At a comparatively recent date, however, records have been brought to light that show beyond doubt that December 25, 1912, is the centennial anniversary of a remarkable sea fight that took place off the coast of North Carolina between a United States and a British warship. Some consolation for this "breaking of the record" and its consequent desecration of the day of "joy to the world" may be had in the fact that this battle was not deliberately sought on either side, but was the result of one of those singular sea accidents which no human mind could foresee.

Early in December, 1812, Captain Nathaniel Shaler, of New York, put to sea in the 14-gun privateer Governor Tompkins, making several prizes soon after leaving port. Shaler was one of the most successful commanders of private warships in the War of 1812. He had had experience with the naval service and maintained the order and discipline of a man-of-war aboard his craft—even to establishing a marine guard. The Governor Tompkins, while commissioned by the State of New York, was owned principally by people living in Baltimore.

Commander Was Wary.

Shortly after sunrise on Christmas Day three sails were descried from the Governor Tompkins' masthead, but as the wind held light it was 3 o'clock in the afternoon before the privateer drew near to them. The popular idea that the old-time privateersman was a reckless devil receives a shock in the case of the last commander. He was daring to the last degree, but in no wise reckless. He understood too well the possibilities of being decoyed into unsuspected danger, and on this Christmas Day he approached the strangers with caution.

There was something about the appearance of the vessels that aroused Shaler's suspicions. He was anxious to make prizes, but had strong objections to being captured. He noticed that the largest of the strange craft seemed to assume the leadership in the preparations that were obviously being made to receive the Governor Tompkins, for the former was busy signalling her consorts. Shaler's quick eye soon detected that these signals seemed to be misunderstood, for finally boats put off from the big stranger, undoubtedly bearing officers with verbal instructions.

The shrewd American skipper also noticed several peculiarities about the big stranger which only strengthened his suspicions that she was a man-of-war in disguise. After a long scrutiny through his spyglass Shaler discovered that the craft had twenty or more large gun ports to a side, which had been carefully painted over, but not cleverly enough to escape his eye. He also noted that she had boarding nettings almost up to her tops, but some of the heavily armed British merchantmen of that day were similarly equipped. The fact that the stranger had her topmast studdingsails boom out and sails at their ends ready for spreading at a moment's notice did not escape the keen American, nor did a "peculiar something" on her deck that resembled an overturned merchantman's boat disabuse him from the belief that this "peculiar something" concealed an exceptionally heavy gun, having a very long range in a chase.

Taking everything into consideration, Captain Shaler came to the sage conclusion that the stranger was a splendid craft to keep away from. Four Uncle Nathaniel was not born yesterday, and this was not his maiden venture on his water. But there was no occasion for alarm or haste. "We must dissemble. To turn in precipitate flight would be undignified. It would lower the character of the famous American privateersman."

As a matter of fact, the Governor Tompkins at that moment was as safe from attack as if she had been moored at Coenties Slip, for she held a position windward of the strangers, and if pursued would have had little difficulty in making her escape in a thrash into the teeth of the wind; and so Captain Shaler carried on the trembling verge of the danger line to await developments.

Squall Brings Ships Together.

It was then that the unexpected happened. A squall came smashing across the waves from windward, caught the Governor Tompkins fairly and squarely under her ears and carried her slap-bang into the open arms of the big stranger. The records are silent as to who was the most surprised at this sudden and unexpected turn in the wheel of fortune, the Americans in the privateer or the people in the stranger. It was a most lucky circumstance for the privateersmen that the squall reached the big stranger about the time the Governor Tompkins did, for the former's people were kept so busy making fast their own flapping sails that they could not immediately devote gunfire attention to the privateer.

Availing himself of the stranger's many pressing engagements with his sails, Captain Shaler quickly got his own craft under control, tacked about and speedily began a desperate race windward (notwithstanding the fact that this took him directly past the big stranger's broadside as his only avenue of escape. It may as well be stated right here that the big stranger was the British 44-gun frigate *Laurel*, which was reputed to be one of the fastest in the royal navy at the time—and she fully sustained her reputation by the activity with which she made after the fleeing privateer. The *Laurel* had been fitted out by the Admiralty with the avowed intention of coping with the famous American frigates of the same class.

Scarcely had the Governor Tompkins gained a position about a quarter of a mile ahead of the frigate, when the latter tried up her painted ports and let go a broadside from her unpainted battery of 18-pounders, which killed three and wounded five of the privateer's men. Among the wounded was First Officer Farnum, of the General Tompkins.

Down to this moment the privateer had been flying English colors, but realizing that further "dissembling" was out of the question, Captain Shaler hauled down that flag and hoisted three American ensigns and had the audacity to open his puny broadside on the massive frigate. In this manner the two craft ran along, side by side, on the same tack, delivering their broadsides as fast as they could be reloaded—the privateer gradually forging ahead. "Such a tune as was played round my ears," wrote Shaler, "I assure you I never wish to hear again in the same key."

Early in the action a shot from the *Laurel* blew up one of the Governor Tompkins' shot boxes, in which were the two 9-pounder cartridges, which exploded and set fire to a number of pistol and tube boxes lying in the companion way, all of which went off in a most disagreeable manner. In fact, some of the tubes were mean enough to creep through a crack in the companion way and fall to the floor of the cabin below, which was near to the entrance of the magazine. This occasioned some distress aboard the privateer—actual as well as imaginary—for matters aboard were pretty well up in the air as they stood without going any higher. But fortunately for their long postponed Christmas dinner (which was still stewing away in the cook's galley) the precaution of wetting the floor in the vicinity of the magazine and of saturating with water the woolen screen or blanket over the hatch leading to the powder room prevented further explosions.

"Fire Away," Said Dying Negro. Soon after this unpleasant episode an 18-pound shot took off both legs of John Thompson, a negro sailor in the privateer, and nullified the lower part of his body in a horrible manner. Although in his death agonies, the heroic fellow shouted to those about him: "Fire away, boys! Nebber haul de colors down!"

Standing near Captain Shaler about this moment was another negro seaman, John Davis. He was mortally injured in much the same manner, and, falling to the deck, begged that he might be thrown overboard immediately lest his mangled remains encumber the working of the guns.

After half an hour of this lively experience the Governor Tompkins drew beyond the reach of the frigate's shot, and her men began to breathe more freely. But, alas! Just then the wind died

out where the privateer was, while the *Laurel* still held enough breeze to make her shot effective again. This compelled the Americans to get exceedingly busy once more, and for the next half-hour they were heaving overboard every movable article in the ship that could possibly be dispensed with, including some two thousand shot from the after hold. It was not until Captain Shaler had set all hands to manning his sweeps that he finally drew away from "one of the most quarrelsome companions that I ever met," as he expressed it.

Gov. Tompkins' Christmas dinner was not served until quite late that evening.

\$300,000 TO HAT MAKERS

Stetson Firm Gives Presents to 5,500 Employees.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.] Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—At the Christmas celebration of the John B. Stetson Hat Company in the company's factory to-day gifts valued at \$300,000 were distributed to the fifty-five hundred employees. Every person employed by the firm received a gift.

The men had their choice between hats and turkeys, and 2,775 chose turkeys, while 176 took hats. The turkeys weighed twenty tons. The women received either gloves or boxes of candy, and 1,170 pairs of gloves and 1,250 pounds of candy were distributed. In recognition of faithful services individual employees received \$15,000 in gold coin in amounts from \$5 to \$10. Shares of the John B. Stetson Building and Loan Association were given to 415 old employees and ninety men received shares of the common stock of the hat company.

Apprentice boys who had been industrious during the year received gold watches and chains, fifty-seven getting watches and fifty-nine chains. Seven watches and chains were given to journeymen, and John H. Drake and Maurice S. Flood, of the New York sales office, each received a watch.

\$500,000 GIFT TO WORKERS

W. A. Burpee to Pension All of His Old Employees.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.] Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—W. A. Burpee, the millionaire seedman, to-day created a trust fund of \$500,000 for the benefit of all of his retired employees who are to share it when they are retired because of old age, and in addition presented to 550 employees old, life insurance policies entitling them to death benefits of \$5,000 in recognition of years of faithful service.

Mr. Burpee is one of the pioneers in the seed business, and from time to time has given liberally to charity. A few months ago he announced a donation of \$300,000 for those who have been incapacitated from work, but are still in early adult life.

WAGE RAISE PULLMAN GIFT

\$300,000 More for 2,500 Office Employees Next Year.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Clerks, bookkeepers, stenographers and other office employees of the Pullman Company to the number of twenty-five hundred are to receive an increase in pay of from 6 to 12 per cent at the beginning of the new year, according to a statement of President Runnels.

The lower paid clerks are to be benefited by the greater increase in salary. In all, the advance will cost the company \$300,000 a year.

XMAS WAGE RAISE FOR 1,500

Southern Telephone Linemen Get an Advance of 15 Per Cent.

Atlanta, Dec. 24.—An increase of approximately 15 per cent in the wages of the 1,500 linemen employed by the Southern Bell and Cumberland Telephone companies, to be effective January 1, was announced to-day.

The advance is in line with the recent establishment of a \$100,000,000 benefit fund by the Bell Telephone Company, to which the Southern Bell and Cumberland companies are subsidiary.

JAIL CAN'T HOLD SANTA

Mrs. Ballington Booth Takes "Absent Papi's" Place.

AIDS PRISONERS' WIVES

Christmas Boxes from "Little Mother" Gladden Hundreds of Children.

There are hundreds of families all over the country, where "papa is away," which will be gladdened by the receipt of a large, well filled Christmas box, containing this greeting:

"From the office of Mrs. Ballington Booth, No. 34 West 25th street, New York City."

And the little children who are too young to know, and who wonder why papa stays away so long, will take the new shoes, new dresses and other things and the wonderfully dressed dolls and go to bed praying that papa will come home soon.

But the mothers, who know, will also pray, but their prayer will be for Mrs. Booth, head of the Volunteer Prison League, whose quiet work for the material relief of those who have fallen afoul of the law is not so well known as other charities, whose work may be done more in the open.

The selection of the recipients of these Christmas boxes has taken up the work of many investigators in more than twenty states during the last month, and it will be well past New Year's Day before "papa's Christmas tree" reaches many homes, due to the late arrival of the letters of appeal.

Appeals from Prisons.

Most of the names for investigation by Mrs. Booth's staff come from the chaplains of prisons, but many of the letters come direct to Mrs. Booth herself from the prisoners.

One of these letters read:

Dear Mrs. Booth: I have a young wife, aged twenty, and a small child, a little over a year old. My wife is sickly and is not able to get along very well herself, so I wish you would help them this Christmas time. Your aid will certainly be appreciated.

J. K., No. 100049.

Many of the girls write letters that accompany their dolls, and one, written by a little Miss Dickinson, who attends a private school in Springfield, Mass., read:

Dear Little Girl: When this little doll was being dressed I tried to tell her about her new home. I hope she will have as pleasant a one as she anticipates. Perhaps you don't know what that long word means. It means that she has her mother who will love and take good care of her.

I have named her Maud, after your friend and mine, Mrs. Booth.

Maud's clothes all come off, as you can put her to bed every night and dress her in the morning.

Would you please write to me or have some older person write and tell them what to say. Tell me how you like Maud, and if she is happy, for I will be anxious to know. I am sending the envelope to put your letter in, so all you have to do is to mail it.

And the doll's clothes were as pretty and charming as the little doll-dress-maker's letters.

And there are other types of letters. Here is one from a man who fifteen years ago was one of the papas who stay so long away:

Dear Little Mother: I send you this for the wives and children of the poor unfortunate. I understand their needs.

It was signed by a man who is one of the leading citizens of a large Western town, and his check was a substantial one. He has been sending one for the last ten years. He was without work and friends when he left prison, and he appealed to Mrs. Booth, who was then beginning her work for the relief of prisoners. And the title he gave her is the one she is best known by in the prisons.

How to Find a Room

Consult the Free Room and Board Register of the Tribune which contains a list of desirable furnished rooms and board offered in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

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